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SUBJ: THE TRANSITION - MADRID DAILIES COMMENT ON JUAN CARLOS'
SPEECH BEFORE THE CORTES

1. THE MADRID DAILIES, 23 NOVEMBER, FEATURED JUAN CARLOS MORE THAN FRANCO, STRESSING THE THEMES OF NATIONAL UNITY AND CONCORD AND THAT JUAN CARLOS WOULD BE KING OF ALL THE SPANISH. ALL CALLED ON THE SPANISH TO UNITE IN SUPPORT OF THEIR KING.

2. ABC (MONARCHIST) ALSO NOTED THE SALUTE TO THE MEMORY OF FRANCO AND THAT JUAN CARLOS' DUTY WOULD BE TO PROMOTE ORDER AND JUSTICE WITH CONFIDENCE IN THE NEW GENERATION. THE LEAD EDITORIAL SAID THAT JUAN CARLOS HAD BEGUN HIS REIGN FIRMLY IN TOUCH WITH SPANISH REALITY AND SPANISH HISTORY, AS INHERITOR NOT JUST OF FRANCO'S REGIME BUT ALSO OF THE TRADITIONS OF THE SPANISH MONARCHY, NOTING HERE JUAN CARLOS' REFERENCE TO HIS FATHER. THIS NEW ERA WOULD BEGIN FOUNDED FIRMLY IN ORDER, LIBERTY AND JUSTICE, MOVING TO INTEGRATE SPAIN INTO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, TO RECOGNIZE THE RICH DIVERSITY OF ITS REGIONS, TO RE-ESTABLISH THE INTEGRITY OF THE SPANISH TERRITORY, AND TO PROMOTE NEW FORMS OF PARTICIPATION FOR ALL SPANIARDS TO ACHIEVE A PEACE OBTAINED THROUGH A COMMON EFFORT AND A DECISIVE COLLECTIVE WILL.

3. YA (CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT) NOTED THE THEME OF NATIONAL
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UNITY AND THE BALANCE AND DISCRETION OF THE SPEECH,

"AT TIMES WHAT WAS NOT SAID WAS AS IMPORTANT AS WHAT WAS SAID." THE KING PROMISED TO BE A MODERATOR, OF THE DISTINCT OPINIONS, KEEPING ALWAYS IN MIND HISTORY AND TRADITION. WHAT REMAINS NOW IS FOR THE PEOPLE OF SPAIN TO JOIN TOGETHER IN COOPERATION WITH THE KING "SO THAT THE COUNTRY CAN EMBARK UPON THOSE GREAT THEMES OF PARTICIPATION, JUSTICE AND BETTERMENT, THE ONLY THEMES THAT CAN MAKE THE PEACE OF SPAIN ENDURE." LET ALL REMEMBER THAT "THE FIGURE OF THE KING PRAYING BEFORE THE BIER OF FRANCO SIGNIFIES THE CONTINUANCE OF ALL THAT OUGHT TO CONTINUE" AND "THE BETTERMENT OF WHATEVER WAS BEGUN IN THE LIFETIME OF FRANCO BUT COULD NOT BE THEN ACCOMPLISHED."

4. A FURTHER ARTICLE IN YA REPORTED THAT THOSE THEMES MOST NOTED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE CORTES WERE THE FOLLOWING: THAT THE MONARCH WOULD BE THE FAITHFUL GUARDIAN OF PEACE AND OF PROSPERITY; THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL LEVELS OF THE PEOPLE; RELIGIOUS LIBERTY; THE REGIONAL PECULIARITIES; CONFIDENCE IN THE NEW GENERATION; THE ALLUSION TO THE RECOVERY OF GIBRALTAR; AND THAT THE KING WOULD BE A CHANNEL FOR THE COMPLETION OF ASPIRATIONS BUT WITH "FIRMNESS AND PRUDENCE". THE ARTICLE NOTED THAT HIS FIRST ACTIONS WOULD SAY MUCH, PARTICULARLY HIS CHOICE OF THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE CORTES, HIS DECISION ON WHETHER TO RETAIN OR CHANGE THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT. IN REGARD TO HIS DECLARATIONS OF PARTICIPATION AT ALL LEVELS AND OF CONFIDENCE IN THE NEW GENERATION, THE ARTICLE RAISES THE KEY ISSUE OF WHETHER PRESENT ELECTORAL PROCEDURES ARE SUFFICIENTLY AMPLE TO ALLOW SPANIARDS TO ENTER INTO PARTICIPATION OR WHETHER IT WOULD NOT BE BETTER TO PROROGUE THE PRESENT CORTES IN ORDER TO INSTITUTE AN ELECTORAL REFORM TO PRODUCE ELECTIONS WHICH WOULD MANIFEST "THOSE CURRENTS AND OPTIONS WHICH HOLD MAJORITY SUPPORT."

5. ARRIBA, THE JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT, CALLED ON SPAINARDS TO JOIN IN SUPPORT FOR THE KING, BUT THE THEME OF ITS VARIOUS STORIES WAS THAT THE MEMORY OF FRANCO WOULD BE THE GUIDE TO FUTURE ACTIONS.
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THE MESSAGE OF THE KING "COINCIDED FULLY WITH THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE SPANISH PEOPLE," IN ITS CALLS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, PARTICIPATION IN ALL SPHERES OF PUBLIC LIFE, RESTORATION OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, RECOGNITION OF REGIONAL PECULIARITIES, ORDER, LIBERTY, AND, ABOVE ALL, NATIONAL CONCORD, AND, THUS, HE DESERVES THE SUPPORT OF ALL SPANISH SOCIETY WHICH BY "ITS UNANIMOUS EXPRESSION OF AFFECTION FOR THE PERSON OF FRANCISCO FRANCO, HAS

MADE CLEAR WHICH ARE THE LINES OF GOVERNMENT WHICH
INTEREST IT."
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